

May 5, 1975

PRESIDENT: There is no need for consent but it is withdrawn. We are back now on Senator Marvel's bill. Before we do that because this will be protracted, there is some guests from North Platte, Mr. Larry Zimmerman and his High School Government class are here. Senator Rumery asked me to announce this. Welcome to the Nebraska Legislature. Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Mr. President, members of the body, I am going to support Senator Stull on this and it comes right back down to a number of years ago the farmers and ranchers could take care mostly with their own problems but the EPA come along and took away what we had to control the coyotes and, consequently, governmental action put us in trouble.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson.

SENATOR DICKINSON: I have a question of Senator Stull, if I could please.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stull, could you respond to Senator Dickinson?

SENATOR STULL: I would be glad to.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Senator Stull, at least elaborate and as briefly as possible, what is a statewide program. You know, we have gophers in our alfalfa fields and they make me very angry when the mud plugs up the mower sickle. What do I do? Call the state agency to come out and eradicate them. I really don't understand what this statewide program is or will be?

SENATOR STULL: Well, Senator Dickinson, gophers are becoming a big problem statewide and I know of one rancher in western Nebraska and he is having the same problem out in his range land that you are in your alfalfa ground and..

SENATOR DICKINSON: My question is, what is going to happen? Who can I call and what can I expect to happen by appropriating an additional \$60,000?

SENATOR STULL: Well, I am sure that when they get this program set up they will have someone in your area. If they don't have, I think you would contact the Department of Agriculture and they would tell you who to get in touch with.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Well, then, it would appear to me that the program will be so broad that \$60,000 won't even start. If, in fact, all of us can call a state agency to come out and eradicate the gophers in our hay fields or pastures or wherever, this could get...this could just get wild. I can't believe that there will literally be a statewide program.

SENATOR STULL: Senator Dickinson, this additional \$60,000 was an amount it took to get this federal money in and...

SENATOR DICKINSON: How much federal money are we talking about, then? There is a lot of confused people back here where I am. I know we can't take all this time on it but we just don't understand. How much federal money gets